

# GENERAL MEETING

## TUESDAY, JUNE 25, 2024

(Hybrid Meeting)

(These Minutes Approved by Floor Members)

The meeting convened at 8:00 p.m. with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. The Twelve Traditions were read by Kirsten M. (High Park Group).

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

#### INTERGROUP REPRESENTATIVES/ALTERNATES:

Aurora, Big Chunks of Truth, Birds of a Feather, Brampton Recovery, Credit Valley, Dry on Danforth, Erin Mills, Fellowship, Fifth Tradition, Friendly, Gladstone, High Park, Indian Road, King City, Kipling, Lakeshore, Love & Tolerance, Meadowvale Fellowship, Midtown, Mississauga, New Anchor, Noon Rap, North Toronto, One Paragraph at a Time, Primary Purpose, Prince Edward, Responsibility, Rox Glen Traditional, Silverbirch, Sisters in Sobriety, Six Points, St. Clements, Stepping Stones, Steps to Serenity, That Gay Crowd, Thorncliffe Park, Trial and Error, and Willowdale Shepherd.

(Please note: some online attendees may not have included their group name in their Zoom screen name during the meeting; for this reason, some groups might have not been recorded as being in attendance in the above list. If you are a Rep and attending online, please include your group name and service position for accurate recording.)

**DISTRICT LIAISONS:** Districts 14, 18, and 22.

**OPERATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Bruce L. (Finance Chair), David G., Jomana A. (OC Chair), Lijon G, and Kelly L. (OC Secretary).

**SUBCOMMITTEES REPRESENTED:** ARCHIVES, COMMUNICATIONS, FINANCE, IT SUBCOMMITTEE, ORC 2024, AND TWELFTH STEP.

**HOUSEKEEPING:** Jomana outlined the following: recording of the meeting.

### ADOPTION OF MINUTES – May 2024

Errors or Omissions: No errors or omissions were forthcoming.

**Motion to adopt Minutes as presented** moved by Dave H. (Queensville) and seconded by Mickey S. (Big Chunks of Truth). Motion carried.

At this point in the meeting, Jomana asked **Operating Committee Members to introduce themselves to Floor members.**

**CHAIRPERSON'S OPENING REMARKS** – Jomana A. (Stepping Stones), Operating Committee Chair Jomana shared that she and the Operating Committee are busy with recruiting/encouraging members to engage in service (see comments below under Motion to Suspend Regular Business). [oc.chair@atoronto.org](mailto:oc.chair@atoronto.org)

**Motion to Suspend Regular Business – Elections for new Operating Committee Members** Motion moved by Ugis Z. (Erin Mills) and seconded by Mickey S. (Big Chunks of Truth). Motion carried.

Jomana outlined the qualifications and service commitments for this position, and asked if any there were any nominations/volunteers from Floor members. No members stepped forward for the position(s) at this time. **An election for 3 more OC members will be held at the July General Meeting. Please announce to your group members!**

### At this time, Jomana voiced a request for members to consider:

"If you have the time, I would like to ask you a personal favour. If you are interested in being of service – either as an Operating Committee member or any other service capacity – and

something is holding you back, I would like to know why. I'm very curious why there is hesitation in engaging in service."

"When I measured this in my own experience and when I joined to Operating Committee, there were 2 things that held me back: 1. How 'mysterious' the position was (vague and not easy to understand); 2. I don't want to sit in another meeting for 3 hours (length of the committee meetings)."

"What helped me to understand was that it would benefit me to engage in service in a new capacity that would allow me to carry the message and grow spiritually and in sobriety. As for the time aspect: One of the things we are really working on as a committee is ensuring that *this meeting promptly ends at 9 p.m.* One of the things we have applied to this aim is timing subcommittee reports to 2 minutes in duration. This is a token of us respecting other people's time."

**"If there are any other reasons and/or factors that are holding you back from engaging in service, I would like to hear about it.** I want you to be as real as possible. Please reach out to be at [oc.chair@aatoronto.org](mailto:oc.chair@aatoronto.org) or call me at 416-728-0737. Thank you for your time."

**COLLECTION OF THE 7<sup>TH</sup> TRADITION:**

- As per our literature and the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition, we are self-supporting through our own contributions.
- In-person Collection: A 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition basket was passed; \$54.15 was collected.
- For Virtual attendees: The 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition link is as follows:  
<https://www.aatoronto.org/about/7th-tradition/>

**FINANCE REPORT** – Bruce L. (Back to Basics), Finance Chairperson

	May 2024 (1 month)						
	Actual 2024	Budget 2024	Variance	%	Actual 2023	Variance	%
<b>Contributions</b>	13,860	8,608	5,252	61%	7,707	6,153	80%
<b>Literature Sales</b>	9,387	11,320	(1,933)	(17%)	15,168	(5,781)	(38%)
<b>= Total Revenues</b>	23,247	19,928	3,319	17%	22,875	372	2%
<b>- Cost of Sales</b>	7,738	9,198	(1,460)	(16%)	10,205	(2,467)	(24%)
<b>- Expenses</b>	14,570	20,231	(5,661)	(28%)	31,433	(16,863)	(54%)
<b>= Surplus / (Deficiency)</b>	939	(9,501)	10,440		(18,763)	19,702	

Income remains strong with totaling \$13,860 or 5K over budget while adjusted literature sales were below budget by \$1,933 at \$9,387, actual Literature Sales were \$11,604 before discount. Total revenue for May was \$23,247 or \$3,319 above budget.

Expenses were also less than budgeted. Cost of Sales was below by \$1,460 and expenses were \$5,661 below budget leaving Intergroup with a small surplus of \$939 as opposed to a budgeted deficit of \$9,501. [financechair@aatoronto.org](mailto:financechair@aatoronto.org)

## **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

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### **ARCHIVES:** Glenn G. (East York), Chairperson - **verbal report**

No formal subcommittee report submitted to recording secretary; the Chairperson gave a verbal report to Floor members.

Items discussed:

- Glenn emphasized the importance of oral histories (long-time members); he gave the example of Ben W. (Thornccliffe Park) who has 63 years of sobriety and just celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday
- The 2025 (Annual) Archives Breakfast will be held on Nov. 10 at the Bloordale United Church (watch for upcoming details)
- The 80 Years of AA book is available at Lit. Dept. at 234 (cost \$12)

Inquiries about specific subcommittee activities: please email [archives@aatoronto.org](mailto:archives@aatoronto.org)

### **COMMUNICATIONS:** Ted D. (Rox Glen Traditional), Chairperson - **verbal report**

No formal subcommittee report submitted to recording secretary; the Chairperson gave a verbal report to Floor members.

Items discussed:

- The committee is busy developing a Google drive
- The Webmaster volunteer is engaged in posting approved GTAI monthly General Meeting minutes to the site
- Committee members Collin R. and Imran M. have created a new online Medallion submission form (downloadable/fillable)
- The July Better Times is out; hard copies were made available to Reps/members at this meeting. A soft copy is being distributed via email through the Better Times Newsletter distribution list
- We are **looking for content contributions from members.** "Give us a story!"

Inquiries about specific subcommittee activities: please email

[cc.chair@aatoronto.org](mailto:cc.chair@aatoronto.org)

Articles/Submissions/Medallion Announcements for the Better Times Newsletter:

[bettertimes@aatoronto.org](mailto:bettertimes@aatoronto.org)

### **INFORMATION AA DAY 2024: No Report.**

The committee will commence meeting for 2025 Event planning in August.

[infoaa@aatoronto.org](mailto:infoaa@aatoronto.org)

### **I.T. SUBCOMMITTEE:** David T. (St. Clements), interim Chairperson

#### IT MEETING – 3 JUN 2024

Meeting open at 7:00 PM. In Attendance: David Sean Ken M Bart Brad. Meeting opened with a moment of silence and the serenity prayer and the 12 Traditions read by Bart.

Discussion during meeting on Google Workspace. Sean now has the access to the Google Workspace and all related accounts using the [techsupport@aatoronto.org](mailto:techsupport@aatoronto.org).

Sean is also working with Kevin to resolve and document all the outstanding issues like password activations etc.

Meeting closed with Responsibility Statement at 7:30 PM [it.chair@aatoronto.org](mailto:it.chair@aatoronto.org)

## **ONTARIO REGIONAL CONFERENCE 2024 Wrap-Up Report:**

Lisa W. (Port Credit), 2024 Event Chairperson, Steve A., (Six Points), 2024 Event Treasurer, and Barbara H. (Welcome), ORC Advisory Committee Secretary

### Lisa W., 2024 Event Chair:

- Lisa thanked Steve and all the other ORC 2024 committee members as it's a lot of work putting on the Conference (includes the Treasurer, AA Program/Al-Anon Program Chairs, pre-registration Chair, onsite registration Chair, Newcomer Room Chair and Promotions Chair)
- Also thanks to the hundreds of volunteers we had over the weekend
- The Conference overall was really good this year
- We were able to build on the success of the 2023 ORC committee
- We added 163 registrations and we grew both the Al-Anon and Alateen programs
- We had a small surplus (Steve can comment on this)
- We were also able to bring back some of the traditions people love (the Marshal who leads the speakers in; the printed program; and ASL signers)
- We were able to negotiate with the Hotel to have food on the Conference Floor (very popular)
- We worked very closely with the Al-Anon and Alateen programs to feel they were a big part of the overall Conference experience
- There was a meeting of AA and Al-Anon on how they can collectively support Alateen which has suffered because of COVID (very well-attended and some Alateen meetings grew their attendance after the Conference)
- Our e-blast campaign to 'promote the attraction' of the Conference and encourage registrations was really a great success

### Steve A., 2024 Event Treasurer:

- Attendance: 2,798 (up by 163 attendees as previously mentioned)
- This resulted in \$8,055.00 more registration revenue than budgeted
- Expenses overall were \$410.00 under budget but there were several variables that effectively cancelled that out
- The final surplus is \$8,471.00
- As an aside, GTA Intergroup was able to book \$8,900.00 in HST rebates from the expenses paid for the ORC

## ORC ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

June 25, 2024

We would like to thank Lisa W. and her committee for all their hard work in putting on a fabulous conference in 2024, A New Freedom.

The ORC Advisory Committee met on May 29<sup>th</sup> to review and approve the final report presented by Chair, Lisa W. and Treasurer, Steve A.

Lisa and her committee have made a number of recommendations that the ORC Advisory Sub-Committee is in the process of reviewing.

The Sheraton Hotel asked us to move back to a March date that resulted in a reduced room rate for the conference as well as some other accommodations.

Contracts for 2026 and 2027 have been signed with the Sheraton.

The committee wishes the 2025 Chair, Eddy G. and his committee all the best for another fantastic event! The 2025 conference, A New Happiness, will be held at the Sheraton Hotel from March 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>.

Barbara H., Secretary, ORC Advisory Sub-Committee [orcadvisorysec@gmail.com](mailto:orcadvisorysec@gmail.com)

After these reports, Jomana announced that **the 2026 ORC Committee is looking for a Treasurer**. Please send service resumes c/o Jomana at [oc.chair@aatoronto.org](mailto:oc.chair@aatoronto.org)

**TWELFTH STEP:** Laura V. (Mount Royal-York), Outgoing Chairperson

Laura once again thanked the Floor and the Operating Committee for the opportunity to serve as Twelfth Step Chair. She also introduced the incoming Chair, Stephanie D., who was elected last week to the position by the Operating Committee. Stephanie introduced herself to Floor members. [12step.chair@aatoronto.org](mailto:12step.chair@aatoronto.org)

For those wishing to volunteer for our phone hotline, please email [greetercoordinator@aatoronto.org](mailto:greetercoordinator@aatoronto.org) (1 year of continuous sobriety needed to volunteer)

**WINTER SEASON OPEN HOUSE 2024:** No report. The committee commences meeting activities in autumn.

**WINTER SEASON VIRTUAL ALKATHON 2024:** No report. The committee commences meeting activities in autumn.

## DISTRICT REPORTS

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**ACCESSIBILITIES: No Report.** [accessibility@aatoronto.org](mailto:accessibility@aatoronto.org)

**CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES:** David G. (Friendly), Operating Committee Liaison – **verbal report**

David reported that David P. has stepped down as Chair at the last Corrections Committee meeting; the committee is currently looking for a new Chairperson. One of the table members has expressed an interest in this position. This will be decided upon at their July Committee meeting. [corrections@aatoronto.org](mailto:corrections@aatoronto.org)

**CPC/PI: No Report.** [cpc@aatoronto.org](mailto:cpc@aatoronto.org)

**GRAPEVINE: No Report.** [grapevine@aatoronto.org](mailto:grapevine@aatoronto.org)

**SELF SUPPORT: No Report.**

**TREATMENT: No Report.** [treatment@aatoronto.org](mailto:treatment@aatoronto.org)

**AREA 83 REPORT:** Amy L., Area 83 Alt. Delegate

General Service Announcements from Area 83 Alternate Delegate-Amy L **June 25, 2024**

### 1. **Area 83 is conducting an inventory (using google forms)**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScPg59QXRjfpb\\_OsEBmCdwykmIRmiDUyyf9vle\\_Pm\\_sNIQMCD/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScPg59QXRjfpb_OsEBmCdwykmIRmiDUyyf9vle_Pm_sNIQMCD/viewform?usp=sf_link)

The deadline to complete the survey is November 10, 2024.

Please see the last page of this report for a flyer to put up in your group with a QR code.

We encourage every member of Area 83 to fill out the survey... it is open to everyone, not just for GSRs

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Conducting an inventory for Area 83 seems like a practical step given the changes that have occurred since the last inventory in 2015. This will help evaluate how well Area 83 is fulfilling its purpose. As per the Service Manual 2021-2023, the purpose of an Area is:

1. To elect a delegate who will represent the area's conscience at the annual General Service Conference.
2. To form a local decision-making structure so groups can collectively decide on matters that affect their area.
3. To carry out Twelfth-Step work that may not be practical for groups, districts or intergroups to take on by themselves.

By conducting an inventory and survey, we can assess how well these objectives are being met and identify areas for improvement. This process aligns with the tenth step's principle of continued self-assessment and correction. It's an important initiative that will contribute to the ongoing growth and effectiveness of Area 83.

The facilitated discussion sessions will be a great opportunity for members to share their experiences and thoughts about Area 83. These sessions will take place during the Service Information Day at St. Lawrence College in Kingston on November 2nd as part of the Fall Assembly weekend. This will be a hybrid event, allowing for both in-person and virtual participation. We look forward to your valuable contributions.

Consider, this survey is a tool for improvement. Your honest and thoughtful responses will help Area 83 better fulfill its purpose.

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2. **Regional Forum-IN OTTAWA August 23-25.** Regional Forums are hosted by the A.A. General Service Board and "open" to all A.A. members or to anyone interested in A.A. Regional Forums are designed to enhance trust and communication between A.A. members, the General Service Board, and Staff and Directors from the General Service Office and AA Grapevine. See Attachment or register here: [RF 2024 Eastern Canada Flyer EN 1.pdf \(aa.org\)](#)  
Come out and experience this once in a life-time opportunity. This event takes place in Area 83 approximately every 20 years!
  3. Area 83 has Draft **guidelines** for any **district or service zone to put in a bid to Host an Area Assembly**. We will be discussing at the September Assembly whether we present it to the full Assembly for approval.  
[Guidelines for Bidding and Hosting Area 83 Assemblies - alternate.delegatea83@gmail.com - Gmail \(google.com\)](#)
  4. **The AA.org website has been updated with information on the upcoming International Convention.** July 3-6, 2025 [International Convention | Alcoholics Anonymous \(aa.org\)](#)
  5. **Opening for AAWS nontrustee Director** [2025 NTD Announcement \(aa.org\)](#)  
A.A. World Services, Inc. (A.A.W.S.) has started its search for a nontrustee director. This voluntary position will commence following the 2025 General Service Conference. Interested A.A. members are encouraged to submit a résumé. Basic qualifications for this position are: a minimum of seven years of continuous sobriety; a sound business or professional background

preferably in, but not limited to, the following areas - finance, management, publishing, legal, or information technology; and the ability to work with others. We are also seeking strength in organizational management, strategic planning, customer engagement, or non-profit board experience.

6. All of these great announcements can be found on the front splash page of the new Area 83 website. [Area 83aa.org](http://Area83aa.org)

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No Unfinished Business was discussed.

### SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES: WE NEED YOUR HELP TO FULFILL THE SERVICE SIDE OF YOUR RECOVERY TRIANGLE:



#### Opportunities In Service:

- Phone Greeters/12 Step Volunteers:
- Bilingual Member Resource (12 Step Calls):
- Workshop Chairperson:
- Winter Season Virtual Alkathon Chairperson:
- Communications Chairperson:
- IT Subcommittee Members:
- Operating Committee Members (3):

#### Please Contact:

- [12step.chair@aatontario.org](mailto:12step.chair@aatontario.org)
- [12step.chair@aatontario.org](mailto:12step.chair@aatontario.org)
- [oc.chair@aatontario.org](mailto:oc.chair@aatontario.org)
- [oc.vicechair@aatontario.org](mailto:oc.vicechair@aatontario.org)
- [oc.vicechair@aatontario.org](mailto:oc.vicechair@aatontario.org)
- [it.chair@aatontario.org](mailto:it.chair@aatontario.org)
- [oc.chair@aatontario.org](mailto:oc.chair@aatontario.org)

## NEW BUSINESS

No New Business was discussed.

### CHAIRPERSON'S CLOSING REMARKS:

- **Reception Report:** (Chairperson provides a count of how many members were in the meeting: Zoom and in-person.) In-person attendance: 20. Online attendance: 45. **TOTAL HYBRID ATTENDANCE: 65.**
- "On behalf of the Intergroup Operating Committee, thank you all for Attending and continuing to be interested in serving a fellowship that has given us our lives back."
- "If you are able and willing, please help clean up and tear down the meeting. Please stack chairs eight high and put them away at the back of the room using a dolly."
- Jomana reiterated her request earlier in the meeting regarding service (see comments after Motion to Suspend Regular Business – OC Elections)

**Motion** to adjourn moved by Violet C.M. (Noon Rap) and seconded by Mary Jane M. (Willowdale Shepherd). Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned with the Responsibility Declaration.

**Next GTAI Monthly General Meeting:** (held on the last Tuesday of each month at 8 p.m.)

A hybrid meeting will be held on **Tuesday, July 30, 2024** at 8 p.m.

# ***HELP WANTED***

## **OPERATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS (3)**

**The Operating Committee of Greater Toronto Area (GTA) Intergroup is composed of 10 members of Alcoholics Anonymous:**

- Chairperson and Vice Chairperson
- Treasurer (Chair of the Finance Committee)
- Secretary (responsible to take minutes at the Operating Committee meeting)
- 6 other OC Members, who are also assigned a role of the Liaison to one of the Subcommittees
- **(3 OC members needed immediately)**

Members of the OC are nominated and elected as necessary when vacancies occur at the monthly Intergroup Meeting by the Representatives.

### **Qualification requirement to be a member of the Operating Committee:**

- A minimum of two years of sobriety;
- Be familiar and comfortable with computer skills, including Email and Word program.

### **Term of service for a member of the Operating Committee**

- The term for a member of the OC is one year; this term may be renewed annually, for up to 2 more years

### **Responsibilities of the Members of the Operating Committee:**

- Attend monthly Operating Committee meeting (usually the second last Wednesday of the month)
- Attend monthly Intergroup General Meetings (usually the last Tuesday of the month)
- Assignment of subcommittee liaison position. Attend monthly committee meetings of your assignment and acting as a conduit of information in both directions,
- Attend Joint Sharing quarterly meetings (one every three months) with the Districts to where members of each service level share information about current activities

## **Questions About This Service Role?**

Please reach out to the Operating Chairperson, Jomana A. [oc.chair@aatoronto.org](mailto:oc.chair@aatoronto.org)

# HELP WANTED

## COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE Chairperson

### Description and Qualifications

<b>PURPOSE</b>	<p><b>We are looking for a Communications Subcommittee Chairperson to lead our team.</b></p> <p><i>The Communications Team is responsible for ensuring a smooth flow of information between our membership – as well as the general public – in the Greater Toronto Area. Our channels for this type of communication is via our website <a href="http://aatoronto.org">aatoronto.org</a> and our monthly Newsletter, ‘Better Times’.</i></p>
<b>RESPONSIBILITIES</b>	<p><i>As Communications Subcommittee Chair, you will have an Operating Committee Liaison to assist you in this service role transition.</i></p> <p><b>You will lead your committee in the following ways:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitate monthly committee meetings</li> <li>• Publish the monthly Better Times newsletter, both on the website and physical copies to be distributed at the monthly GTAI General Meeting</li> <li>• Maintain the <a href="http://www.aatoronto.org">www.aatoronto.org</a> website</li> <li>• Maintain the GTAI Meeting Database for use on the website and other forms of distribution</li> </ul> <p><b>Future website capabilities for <a href="http://aatoronto.org">aatoronto.org</a> include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online Storefront (future) for the Literature Department</li> <li>• Online Help Chat (future)</li> </ul>
<b>QUALIFICATIONS</b>	<p><b>2 years of continuous sobriety</b> is required for this service commitment and a team spirit!</p>

***Please consider submitting a Service Resume no later than August 21, 2024.***

***Please submit Service Resume to: [oc.vicechair@aatoronto.org](mailto:oc.vicechair@aatoronto.org)***

***If you should have any questions, please contact Jomana at***

***[oc.chair@aatoronto.org](mailto:oc.chair@aatoronto.org)***

# HELP WANTED

## Winter Season Virtual Alkathon 2024 Event Chairperson

<p><b>PURPOSE of the Winter Season Virtual Alkathon Committee</b></p>	<p>The <b>Winter Season Virtual Alkathon Event</b> took the place of the Winter Season Open House In-Person Event in 2020. That event was so well-received that GTAI held the event again in 2021, and will continue in 2024.</p> <p>The WSVA is held over four (4) days, from December 24 at noon until noon on December 25, and again from December 31 at noon until noon on January 1. GTAI Home Groups host 1-hour virtual meetings and 4 AI Anon Virtual Meetings.</p> <p><b>We are looking WSVA 2024 Event Chairperson to organize a committee to create, plan, and host the four (4)-day event.</b></p>
<p><b>RESPONSIBILITIES</b></p>	<p>The <b>Chairperson is to be the Coordinator of the WSVA Subcommittee</b> will have assistance from an assigned Operating Committee Liaison to aide in the transition of Chairing duties, some of which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair monthly GTAI Zoom Account Committee Meetings from August/September 2024 to December 2024</li> <li>• Create a monthly Meeting Agenda</li> <li>• Monthly reporting to the GTAI Floor at the monthly General Meeting held on the last Tuesday of each month</li> <li>• Work with GTAI OC Liaison to meet guidelines set by the GTAI Operating Committee</li> <li>• Coordinate Committee &amp; WSVA Event Meeting times from GTAI Zoom Account</li> <li>• Responsible to Oversee Committee Member Recruitment:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Secretary</li> <li>-Communications Volunteer</li> <li>-AI Anon Meeting Coordinator</li> <li>-Two A.A. Meeting Coordinators</li> <li>-Tech Host Chairperson</li> <li>-Three-member Tech Hosting Team</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>QUALIFICATIONS</b></p>	<p><b>1 year of continuous sobriety</b> is required for this service commitment and a team spirit!</p>

***Please consider submitting a Service Resume no later than August 21, 2024.***

***Please submit Service Resume to: [oc.vicechair@aatoronto.org](mailto:oc.vicechair@aatoronto.org)***

***If you should have any questions, please contact Jomana at***

***[oc.chair@aatoronto.org](mailto:oc.chair@aatoronto.org)***